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IN RE: STRYKER BRIGADE )  
COMBAT TEAM DRAFT EIS )  
PUBLIC MEETING )

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10 DRAFT EIS PUBLIC MEETING

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12 Taken on behalf of the 25th Infantry Division and U.S. Army  
13 Hawaii held at the Honolulu Country Club, 1690 Ala Pu'umalu  
14 Street, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96819, commencing at 7:00 p.m. on  
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16

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1           U.S. ARMY DRAFT EIS PUBLIC MEETING STAFF LIST  
2  
3    PANEL  
4    Colonel David Anderson  
5    Ron Borne  
6    Mark Katkow  
7  
8    FACILITATORS  
9    Annelle Amaral  
10   Kenneth Fukunaga  
11   Miki Lee  
12  
13   HAWAIIAN-ENGLISH TRANSLATORS  
14   Puakea Nogelmeier  
15  
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## 1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 MS. AMARAL: Let's bring spiritual guidance into the  
3 deliberations before us. It helps to center us as we  
4 gather together. It helps to get us focused on the work  
5 that we have ahead of us.

6 Normally, I would call upon the Kapuna to come and to  
7 lead us in prayer, and I would like to do that now and ask  
8 if any of the Kapuna in the audience would like to come up  
9 and lead us in an opening pule?

10 Then I ask you, with your indulgence, if I may, would  
11 you allow me, please, then to do an opening pule. And kala  
12 mai, it probably is much better if it comes from an older  
13 person, but I'll start it. Thank you.

14 E ho mai ka 'ike mai luna mai e, 'O na mea huna  
15 no'eau o na mele e, E ho mai, E ho mai, E ho mai. E ho mai  
16 ka 'ike mai luna mai e, 'O na mea huna no'eau o na mele e,  
17 E ho mai, E ho mai, E ho mai. Malo e.

18 To begin this gathering I would like to call upon our  
19 host this evening and that is Colonel David Anderson. He  
20 is the Garrison Commander of the U.S. Army, so, Colonel  
21 Anderson. There you are. He's right where he should be.

22 COLONEL ANDERSON: Aloha, and good evening. As  
23 Annelle said, I'm Colonel Dave Anderson, Garrison Commander  
24 for the U.S. Army here in Hawaii. Thank you, Annelle, for  
25 that opening pule. That's exactly the right way to start

1 this meeting.

2 On behalf of Major General Eric Olson Commanding  
3 General of the 25th Infantry Division and U.S. Army Hawaii  
4 I'd like to welcome you to tonight's meeting on the draft  
5 Environmental Impact Statement for the transformation of  
6 the 2nd Brigade for the 25th Infantry to a Stryker  
7 Brigade Combat Team.

8 Before we begin, I'd like to tell you a little bit  
9 about myself. I've been here about 14 months in the  
10 Garrison. I've been involved with operations in the  
11 Pacific for 8 or 10 years, and I've got 23 years in the  
12 Army. My wife is here with me in Hawaii, and we've truly  
13 enjoyed our time here in Hawaii.

14 Tonight we are here to listen to your concerns and  
15 gather your comments on a draft Environmental Impact  
16 Statement. We did this once before in a scoping meeting as  
17 we began the Environmental Impact Statement process. I  
18 think as you look, those that are very knowledgeable of the  
19 process, and what we started out with, where our  
20 Environmental Impact Statement is today in the draft form,  
21 there are significant improvements and significant changes  
22 in where we started from, and that's based on the public  
23 input that we got during the scoping meetings. So, what  
24 I'm here to tell you is that the input that you are here  
25 tonight to provide to us as we go from a draft to a final

1 Environmental Impact Statement is very, very important to  
2 us and has a significant impact on the final outcome of  
3 this process.

4 Your role is to provide additional input on  
5 environmental, cultural, and any other concerns you believe  
6 should be addressed and analyzed in a final Environmental  
7 Impact Statement. Environmental Impact Statement is the  
8 most comprehensive document that could be prepared under  
9 the National Environmental Policy Act.

10 I know now that everyone is anxious to get started,  
11 and I do appreciate everybody's attendance here tonight,  
12 and you don't want to listen to me anymore. So, with that,  
13 we'll go ahead and get started. And again, the purpose  
14 here tonight is to garner input into this process and to  
15 include that in our final Environmental Impact Statement.  
16 Your input, your concerns, and your thoughts are very, very  
17 important to us as we go through this process.

18 Thank you.

19 (Applause)

20 MS. AMARAL: Thank you, Colonel Anderson. Also  
21 joining us today at this table in the front farthest away  
22 from me, but closest to you is Mr. Ron Borne. Mr. Borne is  
23 the Army transformation manager and has been involved in  
24 all of the scoping meetings and this entire process since  
25 its inception here in Hawaii, and with us also is Mr. Mark

1     Katkow. Mark is with the office of the Judge Advocate  
2     General and is here to provide legal advice to Colonel  
3     Anderson and the others gathered here.

4             You met some of the resource people, most of whom are  
5     seated on this side of the room during the open house  
6     period, and things were set up quite intentionally this  
7     way. What we heard during the scoping meetings was we want  
8     less time of people talking at us, more time to allow us to  
9     make public comment, so the Army redid its program to allow  
10    a chance for people to deal directly with the resource  
11    experts in each of the different pieces of the  
12    Environmental Impact Statement and answer questions one on  
13    one in order to allow during this public comment period  
14    time to hear exclusively from you.

15            So some thoughts we'd like to leave with you before  
16    we begin taking your comments. There are a number of ways  
17    for us to comment. We're here this evening, and the public  
18    comment period this evening is from seven o'clock to  
19    ten o'clock, if it needs to go that long. Tomorrow night  
20    will be at Helemano Plantation, Thursday night at Makaha  
21    Valley Resort, and next week Tuesday at the Turtle Bay  
22    Hilton, and then we will go on to the Island of Hawaii  
23    where we'll be at the Hilo Hawaiian and then the Waikoloa  
24    Resort.

25            During the public comment period, we have standing by

1 court reporters who are essentially taking your spoken  
2 comment down verbatim for the transcript that will be  
3 included in the documentation of these meetings. By  
4 necessity, we have to have some time period for your  
5 comments, so we would say to you that you could give  
6 yourselves five minutes to be able to present your comments  
7 to us. People sometimes get a little miffed at that  
8 because, of course, I have 20 minutes of comments I really  
9 need you to hear, we would suggest to you that, in fact,  
10 your comment need not remain just here at the microphone,  
11 exclusive to the microphone, but actually, you could write  
12 it down and you can mail it in or fax it in.

13 So, when you came in, there was a registration table,  
14 and at that table is a card from Cindy Barger, and Cindy's  
15 address, phone number, fax number, and e-mail are all on  
16 this card, so you can mail in your written comments after  
17 tonight's meeting, you can fax it in or you can e-mail it  
18 in, and the public comment period remains open until  
19 November 19th, so you need not express everything here.  
20 You hear something you want to talk about a little more,  
21 write it out and then send it in to us.

22 You also should have received, at least, a public  
23 comment card, so if your comments are this short, you can  
24 attach it to this card. If they're longer, by all means  
25 use extra paper.



1           This evening, and for all of the public hearings,  
2   there are facilitators that will assist in this public  
3   comment. We provide a number of functions. One is we  
4   stand by you in case you get a little nervous and we  
5   support you and encourage you. We also kind of watch the  
6   time and remind you if you're running out of time.

7           We also are here to assure that decorum takes place  
8   among us all, and that's probably one of the easiest tasks  
9   we have because I believe that people in Hawaii know how to  
10   act. I believe that we treat one another with respect. I  
11   believe that that is something that is deep in us. It is  
12   cultural. It is the way we were raised. And although we  
13   may disagree with what the person is saying, we allow them  
14   to speak their truth, and then we will later stand and we  
15   will speak our truth, and each of us abides in that truth.  
16   Although we may differ with one another, we are not  
17   disagreeable with one another. That is our way. And so  
18   the job of the facilitator is just to make sure that the  
19   decorum remains and that we handle one another with  
20   respect.

21           The other thing that I would point out to you is that  
22   we have a Hawaiian language translator here. He is Puakea  
23   Nogelmeier. He's a wonderfully gifted man and very patient  
24   with us all, and he brought two students with him. What  
25   happens now with the public -- what the Army discovered was

1 in the past in the scoping hearings, Hawaiians would come  
2 up and they would speak, they would give their testimony in  
3 Hawaiian, and then the court reporters would simply write  
4 down inaudible, unintelligible, when, in fact, if you  
5 listen to the record, it was wonderful, perfect Hawaiian.  
6 Quite understandable. Quite audible.

7 MR. NOGELMEIER: Maybe I could explain.

8 MS. AMARAL: Please come. This is Puakea.

9 MR. NOGELMEIER: Aloha, ma'ane'i makou i keia ahiahi,  
10 kokua no ka po'e 'olelo Hawai'i, ina makemake 'oe i kumai i  
11 ka 'olelo Hawai'i, pa'a no kau 'olelo ma'ane'i hiki ia 'oe  
12 ke 'olelo a unuhi nau iho, hiki ke 'olelo ma ka 'olelo  
13 Hawai'i, waiho 'ia, unuhi 'ia ma ka pepa wale no, a hiki ke  
14 noinoi i kokua na'u kekahi o makou e unuhi mai ma ka 'ao  
15 'ao i ka 'olelo Hawai'i a kokua makou i ka wehewehe 'ana ma  
16 ka 'olelo haole, nolaila, ina hoihoi kekahi e hele mai  
17 ia'u, hiki ke ho'olala mamua.

18 Just to explain to any Hawaiian speakers in the house  
19 that you can speak for yourself and translate for yourself,  
20 you can speak in Hawaiian and have that recorded in the  
21 testimony and it will be translated for the record, or you  
22 can speak and ask myself or one of the others to translate  
23 at your side to make that available to both the audience  
24 and the record. A hui ho. Thank you very much.

25 (Applause)

1 MS. AMARAL: Thank you, Puakea.

2 All right. At this point now, what we would like to  
3 do is to begin to call up the people who are registered to  
4 speak. If you want to speak and you have not registered,  
5 we would invite you to do so. There are a group of people  
6 seated at the table outside and they're the ones handing us  
7 the cards of the speakers.

8 I'm going to call up the first three speakers so you  
9 know who's coming up. The first speaker is Marisa Plemmer,  
10 the second is Corrine Goldstick, and the third is Vicky  
11 Takamine. Marisa.

12 MS. MARISA PLEMER: Aloha. I say no to the  
13 transformation. I'm most concerned about the harmful  
14 chemicals that the Army leaves behind wherever it goes.  
15 Army personnel leave the islands. There's no  
16 accountability, records are lost, the years go by and no  
17 one knows what was left behind in the land and the water as  
18 we have seen in Makua Valley for 70 years. No more land,  
19 no more expansion until everything harmful has been cleaned  
20 up. Mahalo.

21 (Applause)

22 MS. AMARAL: Mahalo. Our next speaker is Corrine  
23 Goldstick. Corrine.

24 (No response.)

25 MS. AMARAL: We'll call her again later. Victoria

1 Holt Takamine.

2 (No response.)

3 MS. AMARAL: We'll call her later. Piilani Smith.

4 (No response.)

5 MS. AMARAL: We'll call her later. Bud Ebel.

6 MR. BUD EBEL: Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. I  
7 appreciate the opportunity to come here. The environmental  
8 issues are a concern to all of us. Everybody knows that,  
9 but yet we have people here wanting to hook up to a sewer  
10 plant. But anyway, let's get back to the change in the  
11 military. This apparently is required. They think it is,  
12 and I support their thinking. I don't know if it is, but  
13 if the infantry needs something between heavy armor and his  
14 face, then the Stryker Brigade is it. It's going to save  
15 lives. It's going to help us win.

16 This requires some training facilities. Hawaii is  
17 part of those -- this program. The whole country is. I  
18 just want you to know I support it, but I have to go back  
19 50 years. A bunch of us guys went up to the artic and we  
20 put in a thing called a DEW line, and we didn't know what  
21 the hell it was, but we were working hard. We did it. We  
22 got that thing in there. It was a short-term radar  
23 advantage from the Russians. A lot of money went in the  
24 pot and everybody said, you know, it wasn't worth it. I  
25 think it was worth it. It certainly sealed our border. I

1 was proud to be a part of the engineers at the time. We  
2 built the harbors. We built the storage, on and on, but  
3 the thing that really impressed me now that I'm getting a  
4 little older is I stumbled across an article in the  
5 National Geographic. Those facilities we built are still  
6 there. We got the NOAA, National Ocean Atmospheric  
7 Administration, they're doing deep space probe studies.  
8 They're using those facilities. These are weather proof  
9 facilities take my word for it. They're using those  
10 facilities for weathermen, radar warning systems, space,  
11 satellite tracking, and deep space probes.

12 What I'm saying here is you would be amazed at some  
13 of the benefits that the Army brings to this country. I  
14 don't want to talk to you about Walter Reed and all that,  
15 and Malaria and on and on. I want to talk to you about the  
16 facilities you need. I support your efforts. I ask you to  
17 pay particular attention to the environment because we all  
18 do worry, but I can tell you that there may be some side  
19 benefits that you couldn't possibly imagine in the year  
20 2050 because of what's happening in 2003.

21 I thank you for your time, and I do offer you support  
22 and I'm proud to have served in the Army. Thank you.

23 (Applause)

24 MS. LEE: Thank you, sir. Good evening. I'm Miki  
25 Lee. I'm taking over for Annelle for a few minutes. Our

1 next speaker is Daniel Sailer or Lynette Williams.

2 MR. DANIEL SAILER: Hello there. For the record, my  
3 name is Dan Sailer, and I'm the local programs natural  
4 resource manager for The Nature Conservancy, and for those  
5 folks who don't know, The Nature Conservancy is a private,  
6 non-profit conservation organization.

7 The Nature Conservancy has been in many discussions  
8 with the Army regarding their plans for the transformation  
9 since we made our comments at the public scoping meetings  
10 last year. We're pleased that the Army did listen to our  
11 concerns regarding the proposed acquisition of the northern  
12 portion of our Honouliuli Preserve for use as a small arms  
13 qualifications range.

14 The original plan faced the range directly into one  
15 of our highest priority management areas, effectively  
16 blocking us out from doing our own work. The Army did  
17 realign the firing range so that it would no longer face  
18 our main work area, and because the acquisition area  
19 borders our reserve and includes the access roads, in our  
20 negotiations with the Army, it was agreed that we should be  
21 allowed continuous and unlimited access into the reserve.

22 In our opinion, realigning the range is of no benefit  
23 to our conservation efforts if we cannot get in. We do  
24 believe that the Army intends to follow through on this  
25 agreement, however, we are disappointed that the draft

1 Environmental Impact Statement states that our access would  
2 only be allowed when the range is not in use. With the  
3 estimated 180 to 240 days per year and 8 to 12 hours of  
4 range use per day, that could mean that we would only be  
5 allowed access on weekends, holidays, and a few days in  
6 between. That clearly does not coincide with our work  
7 schedule and as a result, one of our main work areas would  
8 effectively be left unmanaged.

9         The draft EIS recognizes that this mitigation would  
10 not reduce the environmental impact to less than significant.  
11 In other words, by effectively blocking us out from our  
12 management areas, that impact would be significant.

13         An additional mitigation that the Army considers in  
14 the draft EIS is obtaining a permit to allow The Nature  
15 Conservancy access. We propose that this statement be  
16 rewritten to give us perpetual access that is necessary to  
17 carry out our work. Conservation is a long term and  
18 continuous process which requires a multi-decade  
19 commitment.

20         Some of you folks may be wondering just why are we so  
21 concerned about ongoing management. This particular area  
22 contains the largest reintroduced populations of several  
23 endangered plant species totalling over 700 individuals,  
24 and in this next coming three months, we plan to nearly  
25 double that number and to introduce potentially over 1200

1 additional plant individuals. It also contains many rare  
2 and endangered naturally occurring plant and animal  
3 populations and represents the best intact native forested  
4 area in the southern Waianae mountains. The entire  
5 preserve is also considered a critical habitat for the  
6 endangered Oahu Island 'elepaio bird.

7         And just to give you an idea of what we do on a daily  
8 basis, our activities in any given week consist of  
9 restoration activities, high school classes participating  
10 in project stewardship, which is a conservation training  
11 program, and control of rats eating endangered snails as  
12 well as young 'elepaio, and we also lead interpretive hikes  
13 for the public which you folks are more than welcome to  
14 join us on. So, as you can see, our management work and  
15 education work does require us to have access just about  
16 every day of the week.

17         Another concern is for the prevention and suppression  
18 of wildfires. According to the draft EIS, ammunition,  
19 weapon systems, and pyrotechnics will be used during  
20 training at Schofield's main post, and as we have  
21 witnessed, even with a good fire plan and the system of  
22 fire break roads, fires can and do escape and burn  
23 unfortunately for many, many days. We are concerned that  
24 the forest habitat and species that are damaged by these  
25 fires above Schofield would also threaten Honouliuli



1 Preserve.

2           So, we strongly urge the Army to include a series of  
3 fire break roads and other presuppression measures in its  
4 wildfire plan, and the Army should also train all  
5 applicable personnel to implement the wildfire plan and to  
6 communicate efficiently with each other so that valuable  
7 hours, if not minutes, are not wasted just because of a  
8 lack of coordination.

9           Lastly, over the past four years, The Nature  
10 Conservancy has been engaged in ongoing discussions with  
11 the Army regarding the use of lands in Honouliuli Preserves  
12 as part of the Makua Implementation Plan. Sections of the  
13 preserve, including the areas that we have specifically  
14 mentioned above, are planned to be used for stabilization  
15 for more than a dozen plant and animal species mention in  
16 the Makua Implementation Plan.

17           The Army must understand that their mitigation and  
18 conservation goals can only be achieved if we have daily  
19 access and that these areas are protected from wildfire and  
20 endangered species. We are confident that the Army will  
21 continue to listen to our concerns and make the changes  
22 that we find are necessary. These changes are not major.  
23 It's not a lot of land, and these kind of access agreements  
24 are not -- not impossible to overcome.

25           The Nature Conservancy recognizes the Army as an

1 important value and conservation partner in Hawaii, and we  
2 will continue to seek ways to work together to accommodate  
3 the Army's own training needs without damaging the  
4 irreplaceable resources of Honouliuli.

5 For those interested in learning a little bit more  
6 about our preserves, we do have a booklet here that one of  
7 my co-workers has made available, so you can see us after  
8 the hearing to learn more about our own efforts in  
9 Honouliuli. And thank you for your time.

10 (Applause)

11 MS. LEE: Our next speaker is Wally Inglis. Is Wally  
12 here?

13 MR. WALLY INGLIS: Good evening. Aloha. My name is  
14 Wally Inglis, and I'm a retired state worker, and I live on  
15 the Island of Oahu. I offer testimony tonight on behalf of  
16 the Center for Non-Violent Education and Action, a  
17 statewide network which is based at Mala Aina Farm on the  
18 Big Island's Puna District. I served on the board of  
19 directors of the center since its founding more than 20  
20 years ago.

21 The Center's detailed testimony will be presented  
22 next week in public meetings scheduled for the Island of  
23 Hawaii, so what you're getting tonight is a short form,  
24 abbreviated to save time and avoid repetition.

25 The intent of my statement is to oppose this project

1 and to signify that the Stryker threat is not island  
2 specific. It is neither a Big Island nor an Oahu issue.  
3 The implications are statewide and nationwide. If truth be  
4 told, we are global. To quote our Center's director from  
5 an article published recently in the Hawaii Island Journal,  
6 "A Stryker Brigade will deepen Hawaii's involvement in  
7 raging wars of aggression and occupation of other nations  
8 around the world. There is nothing defensive about a  
9 Stryker. A Stryker is meant to strike."

10 We've been called here tonight to talk about, quote,  
11 the environment, to respond to a thousand page, three  
12 volume opus. It looks for more loopholes to continue the  
13 military's century long exploitation of our island. It  
14 doesn't take a -- with all due respect, it doesn't take a  
15 rocket scientist to realize that the impacts on a fragile  
16 ecosystem will be monumental, they'll be devastating.

17 And what are the other impacts, the economic, the  
18 cultural, and the spiritual impacts? Who's working on  
19 those impact statements? We can save countless reams of  
20 paper and precious hours of our time by curbing this  
21 monster before it is unleashed on a land that is already  
22 been ravaged and militarized over too long a time.

23 Our message to the military is this: Clean up, not  
24 build up. Rather than expand your operations, take on the  
25 Herculean task of cleaning up the wreckage of past

1 operations.

2 Let me close with an anecdote. Earlier this month my  
3 son, a UH student at the college of education, was working  
4 on an assignment that had him looking into how education in  
5 our state is funded. In browsing through the DOE's budget,  
6 he noticed that something in the neighborhood of 1.5  
7 billion has been appropriated to run all of our schools  
8 over a two-year period.

9 As we were discussing this and he mentioned this  
10 figure, I saw a light go on in his eyes. He left the room,  
11 returning in a moment with the morning paper. "I knew that  
12 figure looked familiar," he said, "that's how much it would  
13 cost for one Stryker Brigade." That's a partial answer to  
14 my question that I pose about the important impact  
15 statements are not coming from the generals and the  
16 politicians. They're coming from ordinary people like my  
17 son, and this is where a measure of hope lies for all of  
18 us. Thank you.

19 (Applause)

20 MS. LEE: Our next speaker is Maunakea Trask.

21 MR. MAUNAKEA TRASK: Good evening. My name is  
22 Maunakea Trask, and it is that Trask for those of you guys  
23 who were wondering. Well, I leave that up to my aunties to  
24 do that stuff.

25 I'm a law student right now at the University of

1 Hawaii, and I'm in environmental class, and I'm in all  
2 these different things and we learn about public hearings  
3 and stuff like that, and I also majored in anthropology and  
4 archeology for undergrad, so my concerns are, you know --  
5 they are focused on that, cultural resources, as well as  
6 land use in Hawaii and legal implications of this whole  
7 thing.

8 My concern is that I understand -- I'm not going to  
9 bad mouth the military. You know, you guys have your  
10 agenda and we have ours. I respect that. That's fine. My  
11 concern is, though, that this gentleman stated before the  
12 arctic outpost weather proof facility is used for great  
13 things, but my understanding -- I printed out the executive  
14 summary of the Environmental Impact Statement, and it seems  
15 to me that these are going to be largely training  
16 facilities, and I don't think that personally much more can  
17 be used after a training facility is used at all. You  
18 know, they're bombing targets. I mean, you still can't go  
19 on Kaho'olawe now. It has bullet ridden buildings, fake  
20 cities, sham cities to engage in urban warfare in the  
21 Middle East. Maybe they can be used for public housing  
22 later, but maybe not.

23 Also, I was watching television the other day. I  
24 watch TV all the time, and there's a new Army-of-one spot,  
25 if anyone's seen it, regarding Pohakuloa, and it's about a

1 Private First Class, young kid from the Mainland, you know,  
2 and he has 25 tons of dynamite and he needs to build a  
3 road, except the road's on a volcano, so what do you do?  
4 You shove all the dynamite in the ground and you fire in  
5 the hole, bang, Army of One. That's what that is.

6 But the thing about Hawaii is that Hawaii is a state  
7 planning state. They plan all their land use as they  
8 classify it and our islands are divided into four uses;  
9 there's urban, rural, agricultural, and conservation.

10 Now, urban is largely on Oahu, right, that's all the  
11 urban life. Agricultural land and conservation land is the  
12 biggest one, and the Army would be taking conservation and  
13 agricultural land, and my concern is that after -- we're  
14 going to win the war on terrorism. I trust you guys. You  
15 know, no one can beat us. Solid. But when the war is  
16 over, we're going to be stuck with like two more  
17 Kaho'olawes and we'll be forced to clean it up. And we'll  
18 have to -- on Kaho'olawe there's, you know, unexploded  
19 ordnances, there's trash, there's military desks, file  
20 cabinets, goats, the land is trashed, and it may be a  
21 casualty of war -- another casualty of war, but as a  
22 Hawaiian, my concern is the aina, and when it's gone, it's  
23 gone.

24 And so -- and if agricultural land and conservation  
25 land is appropriate, I guess, under eminent domain, which

1 is legal, it's totally legal, there's -- there won't be any  
2 uses after, and in the Environmental Impact Statement and  
3 some of the reports, in the report itself, it seems that  
4 the Army understands this and they accept it.

5       Okay. But just, please, there's too much -- there's  
6 enough pilikia between us already. People are yelling.  
7 People are screaming. There's people outside holding  
8 signs, and I understand part of the reason why you were --  
9 it's beneficial to hold meetings on private properties so  
10 you can expedite, make it go fast, so there's not all the  
11 crazies, you can avoid all that, because you can regulate  
12 people on private property, not public property. That's  
13 why it's not in a school, it's not in a neighborhood  
14 center.

15       It would be -- trust me. It would be in the Army's  
16 best interest to realize that even though you are  
17 autonomous and you can operate within your own laws, and  
18 you even have your own legal system, the Judge Advocate  
19 Generals, it's still good to be a part of the community,  
20 and to realize that Hawaiians will stick by you. They'll  
21 stick by you, like on the west side on Kauai, they love you  
22 guys, but really when doing this, you have a lot of good  
23 ideas about your mitigation measures and -- just try to  
24 give us something. Just some consolation, which would be  
25 in your best interest, you know. And that's just about it.

1 Thank you very much.

2 (Applause)

3 MS. LEE: Josh Stanbro, and following Josh is Mandy  
4 Baptist. Is Josh in the audience?

5 (No response.)

6 MS. LEE: Mandy.

7 MS. MANDY BAPTIST: Aloha. My name is Manda. I'm a  
8 student at UH Manoa, and I'm studying history with a focus  
9 on indigenous people. As I was going through the EIS on  
10 various military training sites that we have here in the  
11 islands, you come to a realization that it's only native  
12 Hawaiians that are affected. It's any basic human who has  
13 to live off the land, and a lot of the wording in the EIS  
14 has a lot to do with -- environmental pollution is not like  
15 toxins entering our freshwater aquifers. What I'd like to  
16 have in the EIS is what the plan is if something like that  
17 happens because every single person, whether you are a  
18 native or not to Hawaii, will be affected by that.

19 And it's unfortunate for, like, the people who are  
20 extremely passionate, and, you know, very upset are unable  
21 to come here because they want to bring signs in and  
22 whatnot, because those are people that actually have to  
23 live off of the land that has already been, you know,  
24 polluted by military training.

25 And in September I was able to go to Makua Valley



1 Military Reservation, and we were trying to dig out and  
2 clean out a freshwater well that was supposed to have had  
3 the freshest water in all of Hawaii, but it's all covered  
4 up, and we couldn't even use shovels to dig out the dirt  
5 because of the danger of the unexploded ordnance, so  
6 pathetically, we're using literally tree branches to dig up  
7 all this dirt and we're basically not getting anywhere, and  
8 this is obviously what's going to happen if this continues.  
9 And just -- I think it's unfortunate that not more people  
10 are here to explain their concern to you folks, and I  
11 appreciate you folks having us, but we really need to be  
12 more aware that it's a human thing. That the military, you  
13 know -- you're affecting humans, just in general. I'm  
14 sorry. Thank you.

15 (Applause)

16 MS. LEE: So that was the end of my list of people  
17 who had signed up when they checked in at the front. I'm  
18 going to cycle back through. We called several names that  
19 weren't here at the time.

20 Corrine Goldstick, Vicky Takamine, Piilani Smith, and  
21 Josh Stanbro. Is there anyone here who wishes to come up  
22 and speak who didn't sign up on one of these? You would  
23 like to come on up, and if you wouldn't mind, just stating  
24 your name for the record since I don't have it.

25 MS. WENDY RENEE: Aloha. My name is Wendy Renee. I

1 wasn't sure if I was going to say anything tonight, but  
2 obviously, I really did want to say something. I am in  
3 opposition of the sky -- Stryker Brigade.

4 I've been working for peace. I served in the Air  
5 Force for five years in '82 to '87, and within those five  
6 years, it became very, very clear on how I wanted to work  
7 for peace, and I brought the Earth Charter here, and I gave  
8 it to one of your representatives to please review and  
9 perhaps incorporate the Earth Charter principles into your  
10 plans on using Hawaii or any part of our world for  
11 practicing.

12 In particular, I wanted to share from this Earth  
13 Charter, prevent harm as the best method of environmental  
14 protection, and when knowledge is limited, apply a  
15 precautionary approach. There's two parts of this I wanted  
16 to share. One is, "Prevent pollution on any part of the  
17 environment and allow no build-up of radioactive toxic or  
18 other hazardous substances." And also, "Avoid military  
19 activities damaging to the environment."

20 I'm born and raised in Hawaii. I consider myself a  
21 world-class citizen, and we should protect the land. We're  
22 interdependent to the land, people and the environment.  
23 So, I wish that, you know, none of the practices should  
24 be -- I can only speak about our land in Hawaii, but, you  
25 know, looking at Kaho'olawe, what was done on Kaho'olawe is

1 going to be a repeat on this land, that's my understanding.

2 So, if I'm wrong, please clarify that.

3 (Applause)

4 MS. LEE: I've got two more speakers that signed up,  
5 Dr. Marion Kelly and Pete Doktor. Marion.

6 MS. MARION KELLY: I have to get my speech out first.

7 MS. LEE: Okay. While she's getting her speech out,  
8 let me just remind you folks that this is the first of six  
9 meetings that are taking place, four of which are here on  
10 Oahu, two on the Big Island. In addition to giving comment  
11 here, you're invited to send comment after the fact. If  
12 you leave this meeting and you find that you didn't get a  
13 chance to say something, they're accepting comments in  
14 writing by fax, and I believe they're taking it up through  
15 the 19th of November. Do I have that right? Yes. Thank  
16 you.

17 MS. MARION KELLY: Good evening. What a small group  
18 of people for a very important topic. What happened?

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Controlled access.

20 MS. MARION KELLY: That's right. Don't let anybody  
21 in who is against this. I've only been here for a few  
22 minutes. I've been hunting for this place for two hours.  
23 I finally followed the cops' cars here. There are about  
24 eight of them out there, and I found it. That's an  
25 interesting statement.

1 I'm extremely disappointed that not being allowed to  
2 bring a very large piece of cardboard with a very brief  
3 statement that summarizes my speech. Especially for those  
4 who are deaf and don't hear what I have to say. But  
5 privacy of this place -- this is a public hearing.  
6 Outrageous.

7 I've been to public hearings all my life, here in  
8 Hawaii. I was born here. I was raised here. I'm 84 years  
9 old. I've been to a hell of a lot of public hearings, and  
10 this is the first time the military has won. Outrageous.

11 I talk. United States continues to prevent the  
12 nation of Hawaii, a peaceful nation, to exist. If I may, I  
13 would like to speak briefly on a small portion of Hawaii's  
14 history to present my position that the United States  
15 military must not settle their Strykers in Hawaii.  
16 Verboten.

17 In 1893, Americans landed troops in the islands to  
18 support the greedy American sugar plantations. Do any of  
19 you know that story? Maybe not. I'll be darn. They  
20 support the troops, the American troops supported the sugar  
21 plantation owners. They had already privatized the land  
22 and had taken over much of it for a few cents per acre.

23 They were well on their way to becoming wealthy and  
24 taking over political control of the islands and of the  
25 Hawaiians. They were anxious to get more money for their

1 sugar that they sold to the United States. I know this  
2 history so well. This is treating it very poorly.

3 So to get more money for their sugar, they took over  
4 the peaceful Hawaii nation and put Queen Lili'uokalani in  
5 jail and aimed to turn Hawaii over to the United States.  
6 These are the sugar -- where's sugar today? Do you know if  
7 there are any sugar plantations around? There are a couple  
8 on Kauai and maybe on Maui, but that's about it. None  
9 here.

10 In response, the women of the independent nation of  
11 Hawaii gathered their people together on each of the  
12 islands and held meetings. They organized -- the women.  
13 They organized what has become known as the monster  
14 petition. It was against the American takeover. They  
15 gathered some 38,000 signatures and presented the petition  
16 to the United States Senate in 1897.

17 The petitions stopped the United States Senate from  
18 annexing Hawaii. In 1898, as Spain gained independence to  
19 its colonies, the Philippines, Puerto Rico, and Cuba, the  
20 United States moved in to take over the former colonies.  
21 In order to take over the Philippines, they needed Hawaii  
22 and Samoa for refueling stopovers.

23 The United States struck a deal with Stanford B. Dole  
24 and the American sugar plantation owners who controlled  
25 Hawaii's economy. The United States took over the Hawaiian

1 Islands. The Hawaiian people were not consulted. They had  
2 no say in the matter. The Hawaiian 38,000 signatures on  
3 the petition were completely ignored. The American  
4 military moved in to secure their controlling position, and  
5 they have been here ever since. The United States has  
6 controlled Hawaii for over a hundred years. Outrageous.

7 Now, with the threat of the United States importing  
8 their Stryker Brigade of 300 -- is that correct? 300?

9 COLONEL ANDERSON: Approximately.

10 MS. MARION KELLY: Approximately. Maybe 400? Maybe  
11 500? Eight-wheeled vehicles into our Hawaiian Islands.  
12 Many of us feel that the United States is using this means  
13 to continue to intimidate us. I am not intimidated, and  
14 there are plenty of people around here who are not  
15 intimidated.

16 Our islands are small. Our islands have only 6,424  
17 square miles and few natural resources. The continental  
18 United States has more than 3.6 million square miles within  
19 its borders, and all the natural resources that are it. We  
20 do not want nor do we need any more of the United States  
21 military flexing its muscles in our peaceful land.

22 I'm very disappointed that more people were not here,  
23 but I can certainly understand why they did not come, and I  
24 just want to let you know that there are a lot of people,  
25 as we passed by, who were at this demonstration last week,

1 people who I know, who I appreciate for their ideas, for  
2 their concepts, and their sense of peace, and they are  
3 those who are striking resistance to the Strykers, striking  
4 resistance to the Strykers, and they should be listened to.

5 And another topic is Makua Valley. We've tried to  
6 get you folks out of Makua Valley, and now you want to take  
7 over more acres of Hawaii, and you should not have them.  
8 And I want to say I'm against any further military  
9 takeover, and I really wish you folks would just take off  
10 and go home. Thank you very much.

11 (Applause)

12 MS. LEE: Our next few speakers are Peter Doktor,  
13 Suzanne M. is the last name, and Danny Li. Is Peter here?

14 MR. PETER DOKTOR: Yeah.

15 MS. LEE: Thank you. Come on up.

16 MR. PETER DOKTOR: Aloha. Good evening, everyone.  
17 My name is Pete Doktor, United States Army 1986 to 1989.  
18 My ancestors are from Okinawa where we've been fighting for  
19 generations against the same military occupation. It's  
20 interesting how these military bases end up in places like  
21 Guam, Puerto Rico, Okinawa and so forth, and not in the  
22 backyards of Martha's Vineyard, but rather in Kaho'olawe.  
23 It's no coincidence. And also my ancestors are -- I'm also  
24 a product of the cold war. My father is a Marine, a  
25 27-year Corps Vet, World War II, Korea, and Nam, so I come

1 out of war, and that's why I come here.

2 My experiences in the military, we used to -- the EPA  
3 used to shut us down all the time we do our field games  
4 because we would just tear up -- we would just tear up the  
5 environment, beautiful land that was public land,  
6 supposedly protected, you know, public land for future  
7 generations, and we would just tear it up with our APCs,  
8 but there was nothing they could do.

9 I mean, it's like telling, oh, we're going to have a  
10 war, but there's going to be no casualties. You cannot  
11 have one and not the other. And this is where I have  
12 some -- I won't call it sympathy, but I remember when the  
13 politicians making decisions to send military personnel  
14 out, that they promised the public that it would be quick  
15 and safe and stuff, and then in the meanwhile, they send  
16 you guys out there, cut your benefits. I won't even go  
17 with my post-military experiences. I won't even go to the  
18 VA Hospital. I won't even go there.

19 I just -- I just find it sad that I -- we've been  
20 used as puppets, been exploited by the politicians. The  
21 Commander In Chief is a politician, okay? Let's don't kid  
22 ourselves.

23 So my question -- I'll keep it quick. My question is  
24 we cannot guarantee there's not going to be accidents. You  
25 cannot guarantee there's not going to be any loss of life.



1 You cannot guarantee that there's going to be an impact on  
2 the land, the air, the water. Again, you cannot have one  
3 without the other. You prepare for war, there's a price to  
4 pay.

5       Why not just be straight up and say, look. Yeah, we  
6 want to train and this is the impact we're going to have.  
7 Are you guys willing to accept that price? But no, we've  
8 got to have these -- you know, skirt around the issues, and  
9 you know why I think that is, why you guys cannot be  
10 honest, military agencies and the government, is because  
11 you guys are afraid of democracy. If people were truly  
12 informed, they might just vote against it and then, you  
13 know, you'd have democracy, people would get their way, and  
14 the military wouldn't. I think it's tragic. That's why  
15 we're here.

16       We're not -- I heard another speaker say we keep out  
17 the radicals and the crazy people. That's ridiculous.  
18 That's an insult to some of those aunties who have a lot of  
19 experience. A lot of the grandmas are out there being  
20 treated like criminals or something. Guns kill people.  
21 Weapons of mass destruction kill people, not little signs,  
22 okay?

23       Now, the one thing -- I also work in a public high  
24 school, okay. And many of those that are most impacted by  
25 these kind of things aren't able to speak here. I'm not

1 talking about those that weren't let in here because they  
2 had a little sign or anything. I'm talking about future  
3 generations, and I'm also talking about other species that  
4 get irradiated and endangered by us that cannot speak for  
5 themselves. I'm talking about future generations.

6 It breaks my heart when I go to the school and the  
7 students are like, "Hey, mister, we gonna go war? We gonna  
8 get drafted?" And you can see the fear in their eyes, and,  
9 you know, I don't know what to say because the direction of  
10 the way things are going, you cannot say, oh, no.  
11 Everything's going to be fine. Everything's going to be  
12 great, just the way the PR system wants to let you know  
13 that everything's going to be okay.

14 Again, I talked with the youth, they would be against  
15 this, okay? I'm not speaking for them in terms of like I  
16 did a poll, but I can tell you this, when I talked to the  
17 students in the high schools, clearly, 90 percent don't  
18 want the military here either and they cannot speak for  
19 themselves, and you know what, they're going to have to pay  
20 the price. They're the ones that are going to have to deal  
21 with the mess. They're the ones who are going to have  
22 their money taken out of their paychecks to pay for the  
23 cleanups, and they're not here being represented.

24 This whole movement is anti-democratic. You know,  
25 again, what happened outside is just -- it's not just a

1 metaphor. It really is happening of how this whole thing  
2 is fraud. The decision has already been made, so why are  
3 we wasting our time here? Because they're going to do what  
4 they want to do anyway, right? So let's just hold our  
5 process to make us feel all good, well, okay. Well, we got  
6 to go with things and things will work out, you know,  
7 but -- you know, there's a connection between 1893 and  
8 2003. If you guys cannot see the connection, I don't know.  
9 I cannot make it for you.

10 So, I'll just leave with one last question, too.  
11 It's just this: With such an extensive history of breaking  
12 promises, whether it's Makua, whether it's taking people's  
13 land, World War II, promising to give it back after the  
14 war's over. Still waiting. I can go to Okinawa, too. A  
15 lot of promises made. Oh, yeah, we're going to give back  
16 this, we're going to give back that on the condition of  
17 this and that. Still waiting.

18 Now, how are we supposed to believe, all this stuff  
19 they're going to tell us, all those little signs over  
20 there? How are we supposed to believe when we have this  
21 extensive record of breaking promises? And to be fair,  
22 some of those promises cannot be kept because, like I said,  
23 as a former military personnel, things just happen, okay?  
24 And we're not willing to pay the price. Thank you.

25 (Applause)

1 MS. LEE: Just an announcement, if there are people  
2 who did not sign up who wish to give testimony or comments,  
3 but don't want to come to the mic, we have a stenographer  
4 waiting back there who's willing to sit with you and take  
5 your comments there.

6 We are looking for input on the draft EIS, and we  
7 have three folks signed up here, Suzanne, Danny Li, and  
8 June Shimokawa. Is Suzanne here?

9 (More proceedings were had on the following page.)

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1 MS. LEE: Is Suzanne here?

2 MS. SUZANNE MARINELE: My name is  
3 Suzanne Marinele. I'm here representing myself. I  
4 want to apologize in advance. I'm unprepared for this.  
5 I very recently found out about this. And I was  
6 reading while I was driving in the car. We're not  
7 going to tell anybody about that. (Laughter) And I  
8 will submit written comments later that I hope will be  
9 more coherent.

10 Hastily based upon a very cursory  
11 reading of the executive summary of this project and of  
12 my threading my way through a great surprise when I  
13 came in the door, those are going to be the basis of  
14 the limited comments I have at the moment.

15 The introduction to the executive  
16 summary, as I read it, gives a big overview of this  
17 project in terms of the context of how the military is  
18 hoping to change over the next several decades it  
19 sounded like.

20 Apparently we're considering the way the  
21 forces are being structured now is considered the  
22 legacy force. What you're proposing is a component of  
23 an interim force that will last, apparently, quite  
24 sometime until we get to, I believe, the objective  
25 force which is where this is theoretically leading us.

1 Am I understanding that correctly?

2                   The third paragraph of your summary says  
3 that the objective force would come out of the  
4 development and refinement of weapons, equipment, etc.

5                   That raises a bit of an alarm for me  
6 simply because of the last experience I had in dealing  
7 with comments being given on a military proposal.

8                   And at that last event I brought up the  
9 fact that I read in Center Defense Information's  
10 current newsletter that Secretary Rumsfeld was asking  
11 for that particular program's testing stages simply to  
12 be eliminated because there was simply no need for  
13 further testing. It was simply implement the program  
14 and never mind, we don't need to test this anymore.

15                  And I found some alarm in that because  
16 as much as I have had concerns historically over the  
17 years with military testing and various of its  
18 iterations, I found I had more concerns when programs  
19 are not tested. I'm fond of my skin that way.

20                  And so I would like to ask for a  
21 baseline discussion of the realities of the development  
22 and refinements of the systems that you are proposing  
23 to enhance our lives with here. That would be really  
24 important to me.

25                  This may be me being picky. But when

1 you say you want to transport soldiers more quickly to  
2 areas of conflict, I would like to point out that  
3 Hawai'i is the most remote land mass on the planet.  
4 And it seems to me that using that as a resource to get  
5 to other places quickly is very peculiar.

6                   I grant you that things may be going on  
7 east of here and you may want to just hele on over  
8 there really quickly. But I would point out if you  
9 schlepped these big things an extra five hours like the  
10 rest of us always shlep when we go to California, it  
11 makes more sense to me logistically in terms of the  
12 supply -- have you ever tried to get fruits and  
13 vegetables here?

14                   You know how hard it is for us to get  
15 things in and out of Hawai'i? There is a lesson in  
16 that for us in all levels of our lives.

17                   Let's see, I've already bitched about  
18 that. (Laughter) Hold on a minute here. The purpose  
19 of the proposed action is to provide realistic training  
20 in Hawai'i. That doesn't make me feel very comforted.  
21 From what I see of what's going on militaristically and  
22 the rest of the planet that doesn't feel very good to  
23 me.

24                   And resource degradation, cultural  
25 annihilation, sociological devastations are all things

1 we live with in Hawai'i more fully than people do in  
2 other parts of the world. Being the endangered species  
3 capital of the world, being the most remote land mass  
4 we are more vulnerable.

5                   As an aside I feel is relevant, when the  
6 human Hawaiian population was met with the advent of  
7 people who looked like me, within a few generations the  
8 human population was completely devastated. And many  
9 people know that.

10                   What a lot of people don't know is that  
11 the exact same parallels go on in the plant kingdom in  
12 Hawai'i that within a few generations, our plant life  
13 here Hawai'i was overwhelmed.

14                   We're extremely vulnerable on more  
15 levels than a person can even articulate. So you may  
16 find us a more spirited audience than you run into in  
17 other places. We like to show you the best.

18                   In my perfect world we would not have a  
19 military, ours or theirs or anyone else's because we  
20 would be a society at peace with ourselves. That's not  
21 the reality we're dealing with here. And I recognize  
22 that.

23                   Our current world does not allow that.  
24 I understand that the military wants to evolve into a  
25 leaner, meaner fighting machine. And in theory at



1 least I can agree with that.

2                   But once again, size being a relative  
3 thing here, while you're trying to create a smaller,  
4 leaner, tighter machine, you're doing it in a  
5 exceptionally small place. Hawai'i is one of the  
6 smallest states of the nation. O'ahu maybe encompasses  
7 10 percent of the land mass of one of the smallest  
8 states in the nation.

9                   And to put a project that might be  
10 manini, small, in California or Texas -- Texas would be  
11 my choice, (Laughter), but to put a project like that  
12 in a place this small it is not tiny. It is absolutely  
13 gargantuan. It is behemoth. And I have some concerns  
14 about that.

15                   I've known a lot of people in the  
16 military from both sides of a number of issues. And I  
17 know that very many people that I've dealt with have  
18 genuinely wanted to do the best they could for Hawai'i.

19                   And all people on all sides of issues  
20 come in the whole spectrum. I have a lot of regard for  
21 some of the people in the military that I have become  
22 close with.

23                   That, however, is not adequate to soothe  
24 my jangled nerves when in July I was at a conference on  
25 the mainland and I went to the Army booth. They have

1 millions of booths. They give you free key chains and  
2 you take home key chains. But one of the booths there  
3 was for the U.S. Army. And they had some interesting  
4 stuff. I've always been involved in environmental  
5 work. So they had a big display on the Army and the  
6 environment.

7                   Now, whether it's commonly known or not  
8 the military, ours, theirs, and all of them, is the  
9 primary polluter on this earth. And hence, an entity  
10 with a larger responsibility than the rest of us have,  
11 I believe, because that does encompass half of the  
12 pollution this planet generates and it's nasty stuff,  
13 quite a lot of it.

14                   While I was at this conference in San  
15 Francisco looking in the Army booth I was picking up  
16 some stuff, some CD's on environmental protection from  
17 the Army and key chains and bookmarks.

18                   One of the bookmarks was detailing the  
19 conservation efforts that the Army has made in any  
20 number of sensitive locations.

21                   And unbeknownst to me that's while Makua  
22 was burning. I did not know that at the time. Things  
23 happen in this world. Our risk is infinitely greater  
24 than we can ever convey to you.

25                   At that last meeting that I went to

1 where I brought up Mr. Rumsfeld's comments about  
2 eliminating the testing stage, I did insert that as a  
3 comment on the project at the time.

4                   And, of course, the final EIS has  
5 responses to people's questions and people's comments  
6 as they have generated them in the production of that  
7 document. So, of course, we all turn to our own  
8 comments first, whether we admit it or not.

9                   But I turned to find the comments that  
10 had been generated by the input that I made. And I  
11 found, not to my great surprise but to my  
12 disappointment, that my comments were outside the scope  
13 of the document and therefore would not be answered.

14                   That's a very common response because  
15 -- and it's a common response because people commonly  
16 bring up questions because our lives are the context of  
17 these programs are occurring in.

18                   And we need the larger context and not  
19 just the minutia that the attorneys require of you in  
20 production of a document that is meaningful to our  
21 lives.

22                   So I'm going to ask you please to give  
23 me real comments in your final EIS, both in response to  
24 my verbal comments here tonight and the ones that I  
25 will prepare in writing because they are not -- these

1 questions and concerns are not outside the context.

2 They are the larger context. Thank you. (Applause)

3 MS. LEE: Danny Li. Is Danny here?

4 Following Danny will be June Shimokawa.

5 MR. DANNY LI: Good evening. My name is

6 Danny Li. First of all, I do want to say that this

7 process is flawed. There are four people that were

8 arrested just previously because they wanted to bring a

9 sign in here.

10 The Army can bring their signs in here.

11 They can make the presentation. Why can't the people

12 who want to make testimony bring a sign? (Applause)

13 Having said that, I want to say that I

14 used to believe -- I used to believe in a lot of things

15 that the U.S. Army and the United States Government

16 says that they are upholding.

17 I was in ROTC 35 years ago in college

18 and I wanted to become an officer. But the more I

19 read -- that was the time during the Vietnam war. The

20 more I read the more I see. I began to understand that

21 we're not fighting to defend this country. It never

22 has been. Not since World War II.

23 In fact the way they control our way of

24 thinking is using the language. Before in World War

25 II it was called the Department of War. Then they

1 changed it to the Department of Defense. But let's  
2 look at the history. A more appropriate term is  
3 Department of Offense. Look at the history.

4               In 1950 the Korean people did not want  
5 to invade the United States. 1958 the people in  
6 Lebanon did not invade the United States.

7               In the 1960s the Vietnamese people did  
8 not invade the United States. In '65 the Dominican  
9 Republic people did not invade the United States. In  
10 Grenada, in Panama, even Afghanistan, today Iraq they  
11 did not threaten the United States.

12              They did not invade the United States.  
13 All of them what happened? We bombed them. We invaded  
14 them. Is that not offense? That's the real history.

15              So the ultimate test of any kind of  
16 project or thing is what is it going to be used for.  
17 That's the most important environmental question.  
18 That's what we had to look at.

19              Whatever they're saying about how  
20 carefully the environment is going to be protected or  
21 how beneficial the economic benefits are, it's not  
22 important.

23              The most important thing to understand  
24 is what is the ultimate purpose of that project? Just  
25 looking at history, history is the best guide of what

1 people will do next.

2                   Look at the history since World War II.  
3 I will guarantee you that all these training brigades  
4 and Stryker, they will not be used to defend the United  
5 States. They're going to be there in third world  
6 countries subjugating them just like we've done ever  
7 since World War II. (Applause, whistles).

8                   MS. LEE: June? June Shimokawa.

9                   MS. JUNE SHIMOKAWA: Aloha. I'm June  
10 Shimokawa and I'm one of those granny types who was  
11 standing outside. But I wanted to say something here,  
12 so I left my sign and came in. I want to thank you for  
13 the opportunity to speak and to offer comments on the  
14 Army draft EIS. If I may I'd like to read my comments.

15                   Actually I find it impossible to address  
16 the particulars of the EIS because I totally reject the  
17 plan of Stryker Brigades and reject, therefore,  
18 stationing a brigade here in Hawai'i.

19                   I have read that the Bush administration  
20 is carrying out a fundamental shift in national defense  
21 from a threat-based strategy to a capabilities-based  
22 approach.

23                   Rather than organizing the armed forces  
24 to counter specific military threats against  
25 identifiable enemies, the United States now seeks to

1 defeat any conceivable type of attack by any adversary  
2 at any point in time from now into the far distant  
3 future.

4                   President Bush has stated that, "America  
5 is following a new strategy. We are not waiting for  
6 further attacks. We're striking our enemies before  
7 they can strike us again." And I take that from the  
8 "Star Bulletin" of October 17th.

9                   Preemptive strikes can only be  
10 interpreted to become perpetual war. And the Bush  
11 administration is operating in pursuit of permanent  
12 military supremacy.

13                   These Hawaiian islands are strategic,  
14 yes. But let it be said over and over again that this  
15 is the homeland of kanaka maoli whose independence as a  
16 sovereign nation was stolen by the United States.

17                   It is unconscionable that the United  
18 States has not only occupied and used vast quantities  
19 of another nation's lands for its own military purpose  
20 and now plans long-term use to pursue permanent  
21 military supremacy.

22                   The president says, "We will not be  
23 permanent peacekeepers. This is not our strength or  
24 our calling." That's a quote.

25                   No, U.S. military forces must be agile

1 and lethal. How can he or any other American who hears  
2 this say, God bless America? It is an insult, an  
3 injury of the highest order upon the Hawaiian people  
4 whose spirit is of aloha. If you can resonate with  
5 anything that has been said, don't you feel a gut  
6 wrenching hurt?

7 I say to us all, resist. Refuse to  
8 support the strategy of military transformation  
9 designed to destroy life except for those who have  
10 wealth.

11 The growing disparity between the rich  
12 and the poor in the world calls us to transform the  
13 world in ways that preserve life and liberty for all  
14 people. That is the American ideal by which we were  
15 raised. Let us not destroy it. (Applause)

16 MS. AMARAL: Thank you, June. We  
17 actually have come to the end of those people that have  
18 registered to speak. And, so, albeit a little sooner  
19 than we had intended, we need to bring.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Because you  
21 arrested four people that's why.

22 MS. AMARAL: Thank you -- we need to  
23 bring this time of public comment to a close. We're  
24 going to be meeting tomorrow at Helemano Plantation,  
25 Thursday at Makaha Valley Resort and next week Tuesday



1 at the Turtle Bay Hilton.

2                   Just to wind up, and reminder, I'll come  
3 back to the first comments I had made when we opened.  
4 I helped facilitate the scoping meetings last year with  
5 the Army. And I recall many hearings in which we were  
6 being yelled at by the audience because we had to bring  
7 the testimonies to a close at 10:00.

8                   The janitors were closing the windows  
9 and they were closing up the benches and we literally  
10 had to get out of there because that public facility  
11 closed at 10:00.

12                  And when the Army reevaluated that, the  
13 Army decided to come to a site that was not controlled  
14 by the schedule of the site but that could be open to  
15 the needs of those testifying.

16                  Every site has its own rules and its own  
17 limitation that the Army does not control that is  
18 controlled by the site.

19                  And it is important for us to recognize  
20 the rules of each establishment that we go into and to  
21 abide by those rules.

22                  I want to thank those of you that have  
23 gathered this evening for being so attentive to one  
24 another, so respectful for one another.

25                  I thank you for your well thought out

1 comments to us. Of course we look forward to hearing  
2 from others within the community. Colonel, did you  
3 need to say any final comments? Then we will call upon  
4 Colonel Anderson for final comments and I'll do the  
5 closing pule.

6 COLONEL ANDERSON: I want to first thank  
7 Annelle and Miki for helping us here this evening  
8 through this whole process. I want to personally thank  
9 every one of you here tonight.

10 For those that commented, every one of  
11 you that participated are, as Wendy said, world class  
12 citizens for your contribution to this process. That's  
13 important, as I stated earlier.

14 I want to especially thank the veterans  
15 of our services, the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine,  
16 Coast Guard that one, stood up and made contributions  
17 this evening, but more importantly have contributed  
18 part of their lives to the service of our nation.  
19 That's important.

20 And I genuinely thank you in particular  
21 for the service you rendered and for your comments this  
22 evening. There are no comments that are against or for  
23 what's going on here tonight. This is a process by  
24 which we genuinely solicit the input into our  
25 Environmental Impact Statement because it is important.

1                   I think as many of you have seen from  
2 our initial draft or initial Environmental Impact  
3 Statement to where we are on this draft, there have  
4 been significant improvements and changes. I'd  
5 highlight what the Nature Conservancy folks talked  
6 about the way we try and work in solutions to  
7 everything we try to this.

8                   This Environmental Impact Statement is  
9 not a final decision by the Department of Defense.  
10 This is a decision-making tool that will be used to  
11 determine whether or not the Strykers' actually fielded  
12 here in Hawai'i.

13                   Finally, for those of you who were not  
14 able to give oral testimony this evening, we will  
15 continue to accept written comments throughout the  
16 comment period.

17                   Again, I want to thank everybody  
18 personally for attending this evening and for providing  
19 us with these very, very important comments. Thank you  
20 and mahalo. (Applause)

21                   MS. AMARAL: If you will join me in  
22 closing prayer, please. I call upon the gods of our  
23 ancestors; I call upon that superior force by whatever  
24 name you hold in your hearts and in your minds, to be  
25 present with us at this time and to stand in our

1 hearts. Mahalo iau ona lani nui amama for the  
2 gathering we have this evening. Mahalo for the feast  
3 that we carry in our hearts. Mahalo for the wisdom.  
4 We pray that You guide us each day to act with respect  
5 towards one another. Guide our path as we move  
6 forward. Protect our families and take us home safely  
7 to them this evening. Amene.

8 (Proceedings concluded at 8:40 p.m.)

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1 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2003, 6:29 P.M.

2 --o0o--

3 MR. RAGS SCANLAN: Well, I would speak in  
4 support of the Stryker Brigade, or the military. I'm a  
5 strong believer in military. It's what allows us to have  
6 our freedom, and anything we can do to enhance their  
7 ability to protect us is there. I know there's questions  
8 about environment and everything else, but the areas that  
9 they're going into are, basically, unused areas. So,  
10 just briefly, I think for the environmentalists there's  
11 not that much concern. If they're really concerned about  
12 the environment, they should focus on tobacco companies  
13 and developers; because once developers go into an area,  
14 there's no turning back. There's more long-term damage  
15 done on a day-to-day basis on the way society is today  
16 than I feel in a military use of land. You can always  
17 restore, although there's been bad stories. I think  
18 Kaho'olawe is one example I think the military learned  
19 from. The future is such that it will only be a plus for  
20 us. Plus, economically, it's a great economic thing for  
21 the state of Hawaii.

22 \* \* \*

23 7:56 P.M.

24 --o0o--

25 MR. JOHN STEWART: When I looked over the EIS

1 thing, there's one little section in there where they  
2 talk about actually doing mitigation that benefits, which  
3 is, they said, buffer zone acquisition, working with  
4 non-profits to actually acquire lands for the  
5 non-profits, and it's the only mitigation in the entire  
6 EIS that doesn't just make things less worse; it makes --  
7 it's actually something that gives the people something.

8           Like, all the other mitigation is, We'll wash  
9 our gravel so there's no dust; but, I mean, you're still  
10 making the road. And it struck me, that the only thing  
11 in there -- and it's not something that they said they're  
12 going to do, it's just something they said was a  
13 possibility, that actually buying land that could be  
14 converted for, you know, housing and taking away open  
15 space in Hawaii and keeping it that way, along the edges  
16 of the base, is something that is a benefit. It's -- I  
17 don't know how to say it. It's a net plus as opposed to  
18 just a bad thing made a little less bad. So I wanted to  
19 just give my support for the one thing in there that  
20 seems like it's actually giving us something as opposed  
21 to giving us less of a bad thing. It's Number 35.

22                   \* \* \*

23                   8:10 P.M.

24                   --o0o--

25           MS. ROSEMARIE TUCKER: Well, you know, the Army

1 was invented to protect us; but who's going to protect us  
2 from the Army? The land is the most precious thing we  
3 have and the water and our natural resources. They  
4 should be preserved for our children, not be threatened  
5 by the Army.

6 Because I just had my first grandchild now, and  
7 it makes me weep to think that we spend 399 billion, or  
8 we did before 9/11, on supposedly defense, but no nation  
9 on earth could possibly invade us because we're armed to  
10 the teeth. We spend 8 billion on Social Security, and  
11 that is threatened. Only 50 billion on housing; we have  
12 so many homeless. It seems like military is like a  
13 separate nation, doing what it wants to do without any  
14 input from us, not real input. You know, we cannot fault  
15 them anything. We cannot say we want to take some of  
16 those billions and build houses for the homeless; we're  
17 not allowed to do that.

18 (End of breakout session.)

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